



## Steve Bannon's contempt conviction hailed by 1/6 committee



Former White House strategist Steve Bannon departs federal court after a jury found him guilty on both counts in his contempt-of-Congress trial in Washington, Friday, July 22, 2022.

Associated Press



## Border between Aruba and Venezuela remains closed



ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE				WATER'S EDGE RESTAURANT & BAR	
<b>MONDAY</b> Angela Flores Violinist 6:30pm-8:30pm	<b>TUESDAY</b> Jean Paul Saxophonist 6:30pm-8:30pm	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Eddie Kroon Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm	<b>THURSDAY</b> Marrybell Maduro Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm	<b>RESERVATIONS AT:</b> <a href="http://watersedge-aruba.com">watersedge-aruba.com</a> Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort Tel +297 5838000 Ext 8106 All premium brands Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views enjoyed al fresco or in air conditioned comfort.	
<b>FRIDAY</b> Ricky Thomas Guitarist 7:00pm-9:00pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Angela Flores Violinist 6:30pm-8:30pm	<b>KARAOKE</b> Happy Hour 9:00pm-11:00pm	<b>SUNDAY</b> Marrybell Maduro Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm		
<b>EVERYDAY HAPPY HOUR</b> 12:00pm to 1:00pm 4:00pm to 6:00pm 9:00pm to 10:00pm					

**BINGO IS BACK EVERY THURSDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY!**

**SUPER BINGO SATURDAY!**

**SUNDAY FUNDAY BINGO**

Super 4-Card BINGO starting at 1pm!

\$7 for 4-Card BINGO | 8 Games to Play

**\$1,500 in Cash Prizes**

**SPECIAL PROGRESSIVE GAME**

Jackpot within 50 Calls | 51 Calls or more \$111

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you purchase your card before noon!

### THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets, Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Dunkin Donuts | Baskin Robbins | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar  
 Hungry Piranha | Twist of Flavors | Juan Valdez Café  
 The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood  
 Coming Soon: Auntie Anne's Pretzels

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | [casinoalhambra.com](http://casinoalhambra.com)

Play Responsibly. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



# Steve Bannon's contempt conviction hailed by 1/6 committee

By ASHRAF KHALIL

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Steve Bannon, a longtime ally of former President Donald Trump, was convicted on Friday of contempt charges for defying a congressional subpoena from the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

Bannon, 68, was convicted after a four-day trial in federal court on two counts: one for refusing to appear for a deposition and the other for refusing to provide documents in response to the committee's subpoena. The jury of 8 men and 4 women deliberated just under three hours.

He faces up to two years in federal prison when he's sentenced on Oct. 21. Each count carries a minimum sentence of 30 days in jail.

David Schoen, one of Bannon's lawyers said outside the courthouse the verdict would not stand. "This is round one," Schoen said. "You will see this case reversed on appeal."

Likewise, Bannon himself said, "We may have lost the battle here today; we're not going to lose this war." He thanked the jurors for their service and said he had only one disappointment — "and that is the gutless members of that show trial committee, the J-6 committee didn't have the guts to come down here and testify."

Prosecutors were just as firm on the other side of the verdict.

"The subpoena to Stephen Bannon was not an invitation that could be rejected or ignored," Matthew Graves, the U.S. attorney in Washington, said in a statement.

"Mr. Bannon had an obligation to appear before the House Select Committee to



Former White House strategist Steve Bannon, center, walks to speak with reporters as he departs federal court on Friday, July 22, 2022, in Washington. Accompanying Bannon are his attorneys David Schoen, left, and M. Evan Corcoran.

give testimony and provide documents. His refusal to do so was deliberate, and now a jury has found that he must pay the consequences."

The committee sought Bannon's testimony over his involvement in Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election. Bannon had initially argued that his testimony was protected by Trump's claim of executive privilege. But the House panel and the Justice Department contend such a claim is dubious because Trump had fired Bannon from the White House in 2017 and Bannon was thus a private citizen when he was consulting with the then-president in the run-up to the riot on Jan. 6, 2021.

Bannon's lawyers tried to argue during the trial that he didn't refuse to cooperate and that the dates

"were in flux." They pointed to the fact that Bannon had reversed course shortly before the trial kicked off — after Trump waived his objection — and had offered to testify before the committee.

In closing arguments Friday morning, both sides re-emphasized their primary positions from the trial. The prosecution maintained that Bannon willfully ignored clear and explicit deadlines, and the defense claimed Bannon believed those deadlines were flexible and subject to negotiation.

Bannon was served with a subpoena on Sept. 23 last year ordering him to provide requested documents to the committee by Oct. 7 and appear in person by Oct. 14. Bannon was indicted in November on two counts of criminal

contempt of Congress, a month after the Justice Department received the House panel's referral.

Bannon's attorney Evan Corcoran told jurors Friday in his closing arguments that those deadlines were mere "placeholders" while lawyers on each side negotiated terms.

Corcoran said the committee "rushed to judgment" because it "wanted to make an example of Steve Bannon."

Corcoran also hinted that the government's main witness, Jan. 6 committee chief counsel Kristin Amerling, was personally biased. Amerling acknowledged on the stand that she is a lifelong Democrat and has been friends with one of the prosecutors for years.

Jan. 6 Committee Chairman Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., was a particular target for Bannon and his defense team. His name was brought up multiple times during the trial, although U.S. District Judge Carl Nichols had warned the defense not to claim in court that the committee itself was politically biased. Bannon harshly criticized

Thompson by name in his daily statements outside the courthouse, at one point implying that Thompson's COVID-19 diagnosis last week was faked to avoid pressure to appear.

Thompson and committee Vice Chair Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., hailed the verdict in a statement, calling it "a victory for the rule of law and an important affirmation of the Select Committee's work."

"Just as there must be accountability for all those responsible for the events of January 6th, anyone who obstructs our investigation into these matters should face consequences," they said. "No one is above the law."

Prosecutors focused on the series of letters exchanged between the Jan. 6 committee and Bannon's lawyers. The correspondence shows Thompson immediately dismissing Bannon's claim that he was exempted by Trump's claim of executive privilege and explicitly threatening Bannon with criminal prosecution.

"The defense wants to make this hard, difficult and confusing," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Amanda Vaughn in her closing statement. "This is not difficult. This is not hard. There were only two witnesses because it's as simple as it seems."

The defense Thursday motioned for an acquittal, saying the prosecution had not proved its case. In making his motion for acquittal before Judge Nichols, Bannon attorney Corcoran said that "no reasonable juror could conclude that Mr. Bannon refused to comply."

Once the motion was made the defense rested its case without putting on any witnesses, telling Nichols that Bannon saw no point in testifying since the judge's previous rulings had gutted his planned avenues of defense. Among other things, Bannon's team was barred from claiming Bannon believed he was shielded by executive privilege or calling as witnesses House Speaker Nancy Pelosi or members of the House panel. □



**LIKE US ON**  
**facebook**  
[Facebook.com/arubatoday/](https://www.facebook.com/arubatoday/)





**Que Pasa**  
RESTAURANT & WINEBAR | ARUBA

"#1 CULINARY EXPERIENCE  
IN DOWNTOWN ORANJESTAD"

WILHELMINA STRAAT 18,  
ORANJESTAD, ARUBA  
T: +297 583-4888

**SATURDAY  
BRUNCH**

UNLIMITED  
A LA CARTE

EVERY SATURDAY  
AVAILABLE FROM 11AM - 3PM

**\$32**  
PER PERSON

UNLIMITED  
MIMOSA  
ADD \$12

RESERVATIONS NEEDED

WWW.QUEPASAARUBA.COM

## White House announces \$270M military package for Ukraine

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT**  
and **AAMER MADHANI**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The White House announced Friday that the U.S. is sending an additional \$270 million in security assistance to Ukraine, a package that will include additional medium range rocket systems and tactical drones.

The latest tranche brings the total U.S. security assistance committed to Ukraine by the Biden administration to \$8.2 billion, and is being paid for through \$40 billion in economic and security aid for Ukraine approved by Congress in May.

The new package includes four High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, or HIMARS and will allow Kyiv to acquire up to 580 Phoenix Ghost drones, both crucial weapon systems that have allowed the Ukrainians to stay in the fight despite Russian artillery supremacy, according to John Kirby, the White House National Security Council's coordinator for strategic communications. The latest assistance also includes some 36,000 rounds of artillery ammunition and additional ammunition for the HIMARS.

"The president has been clear that we're going to continue to support the government of Ukraine and its people for as long as it takes," Kirby said.

Ukrainian forces have used U.S.-made rocket launchers and tactical drones to destroy dozens of Russian targets and hold at bay Russia's larger and more heavily equipped forces.

Russia can fire far more



**A launch truck fires the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) produced by Lockheed Martin during combat training in the high desert of the Yakima Training Center, Washington in May 23, 2011.**

Associated Press

ammunition but has sustained huge losses of troops and equipment as Ukrainian forces have been equipped with precision weaponry from the U.S. and other Western allies. CIA Director William Burns on Wednesday said the U.S. estimates roughly 15,000 Russian forces have been killed. That death toll would be equivalent to the Soviet Union's military losses in its 1980s war in Afghanistan, which lasted nearly a decade.

To try to equalize the con-

flict, Ukraine has made ample use of Western-supplied technologies as it defends its eastern lines.

Ukraine has long sought more HIMARS launchers, which fire medium-range rockets and also can be quickly moved before Russia can target them. On Wednesday, Ukrainian forces reportedly used a HIMARS to hit a strategic bridge in the Russia-occupied southern region of Kherson. One military expert told The Associated Press that the systems have

"hardly had any rest during the day or at night."

U.S. authorities also are providing Ukraine with more guided rockets known as GMLRS. The Pentagon continues to rule out sending longer-range rockets that Ukraine could potentially use to strike deep into Russian territory. That's a nod to the U.S. trying to manage the risk of Russia instigating a broader war.

The U.S. has already sent 12 truck-mounted HIMARS to Ukraine. The United Kingdom has also provided

three launchers of a different kind with GMLRS rockets as well.

Both sides in the war have made ample use of drones. The U.S. had previously committed to sending 121 Phoenix Ghosts to Ukraine. Pentagon officials have not fully disclosed the capabilities of those drones, which were developed by the U.S. Air Force and produced by Aevex Aerospace, which describes itself as a leader in "full-spectrum airborne intelligence solutions." The latest batch of Ghosts is expected to arrive starting in August.

The drones have onboard cameras and can be used to attack targets. Speaking to reporters Friday, a senior U.S. defense official declined to say how the Ghost is used but said Ukraine had integrated drones into its battlefield approach "to great effect." The official spoke on condition of anonymity under rules set by the Pentagon.

The U.S. disclosed earlier this month that it believes Russia is planning to obtain several hundred drones from Iran. Iranian drones have previously penetrated Saudi and Emirati air defense systems in the Middle East that were supplied by the U.S. Biden administration officials have tried to publicly discourage Iran from moving forward with the transfer.

The White House released satellite imagery that indicates Russian officials twice visited Iran in June or July for a showcase of weapons-capable drones it is looking to acquire. □



# Feds: Illegal dumping in Houston may violate civil rights

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Justice Department said Friday it is investigating illegal dumping in Houston, including dead bodies and medical waste, that officials said is plaguing Black and Latino neighborhoods in the nation's fourth largest city.

The investigation will be led by the department's civil rights division and will examine whether city police and other departments discriminate against Black and Latino residents in violation of federal civil rights laws. Besides bodies, items dumped in majority Black or Latino neighborhoods include appliances, furniture, tires, mattresses and even vandalized ATM machines, Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke said at a news conference Friday.

"Illegal dumping is a longstanding environmental justice issue, and like many other environmental justice issues, it often disproportionately burdens Black and Latino communities," said Clarke, who heads the department's civil rights division.

The investigation is the first publicly announced environmental justice action since Attorney General Merrick Garland created an office of environmental justice within the agency in May. The new office is focused on "fenceline communities" in Houston, New Orleans, Chicago and other cities that have been exposed to air and water pollution from chemical plants, refineries and other



Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Kristen Clarke speaks at a news conference at the Department of Justice in Washington, on Aug. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

industrial sites.

Illegal dumpsites not only attract rodents, mosquitos and other vermin that pose health risks, but they can also contaminate surface water and make neighborhoods more susceptible to flooding, Clarke said. They also can lower property values, harm quality of life and even reduce expected lifespans, Clarke and other officials said.

"No one in the United States should be exposed to risk of illness and other serious harm because of ineffective solid waste management or inadequate enforcement programs," she said.

The Houston investigation will focus on Trinity/Houston Gardens, a predominantly Black and Latino neighbor-

hood in northeastern Houston. Residents frequently complain about illegal dumping there, Clarke said. Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said Friday he was "stunned and disappointed to learn about the investigation" by the Justice Department.

"Despite the DOJ's pronouncements, my office received no advanced notice," Turner said in a statement, calling the investigation "absurd, baseless and without merit."

Turner, who is Black, said the city sets a priority to combat illegal dumping, "a practice that we agree disproportionately plagues Black and Brown communities in Houston and many municipalities throughout the country." The city has

spent millions of dollars to fight illegal dumping, Turner said, adding that the problem is overwhelmingly caused by third parties who do not live in the affected neighborhoods.

The Houston City Council doubled the maximum fine for illegal dumping to \$4,000 last year, the maximum allowed by state law, Turner said. The city also has installed surveillance cameras to catch and prosecute individuals and businesses responsible for illegal dumping and encourages city residents to call 311 to register complaints. Mary Benton, a spokeswoman for Turner, said Friday she was "not aware of" dead bodies being dumped anywhere in Houston.

During the first six months of the year, Houston residents called the city's 311 line more than 5,400 times to complain about illegal dumping, The Houston Chronicle reported. That's nearly as many complaints as recorded in all of 2021, the newspaper said.

"It's a huge problem across the entire city," city council member Martha Castex-Tatum told the paper. Castex-Tatum blamed much of the illegal dumping on landscaping and construction crews or landlords clearing out recently vacated apartments. Besides tires and mattresses, other items frequently dumped include air conditioners, water heaters and major appliances, she said. The federal inquiry follows a complaint by Lone Star Legal Aid, a nonprofit advocacy group that helps low-income residents in Texas and Arkansas on a range of legal issues, including landlord-tenant disputes, foreclosures, disaster recovery and environmental justice.

Rep. Al Green, D-Texas, whose district includes southwestern Houston, blasted what he called a "rush-to-judgment announcement" by Justice without notifying the city or local members of Congress. His office "fully supports the city of Houston and Mayor Turner's efforts to ensure all Houstonians live in a safe and healthy environment," Green said in a statement released by Turner's office. □

## Police: 3 fatally shot at Iowa state park; gunman also dead

By **RYAN J. FOLEY and MARGERY A. BECK**

Associated Press

Three family members were shot to death while camping in a state park in eastern Iowa Friday, and the suspected gunman died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, police said. Officers responded to reports of the shooting at the Maquoketa Caves State Park Campground before 6:30 a.m. Friday, the Iowa Division of Crimi-

nal Investigation said in a statement.

Officers found three people fatally shot in a tent at the campground, division assistant director Mitch Mortvedt said.

The three victims were related, Mortvedt said. He did not provide their names or ages, explain how they were related or provide a motive for the killings.

Officials immediately evacuated everyone from

the park, a children's summer camp on the grounds and the campground. Once the evacuation was complete, the only registered camper not accounted for was 23-year-old Anthony Sherwin, Mortvedt said.

"He was known to be armed. That of course heightened our awareness as well," Mortvedt said. Iowa allows people with permits to carry firearms virtually anywhere in the

state. Officials did not say if Sherwin had a permit.

Using a plane to help search the area, law enforcement later found Sherwin dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound in a wooded area of the park. Sherwin came from Nebraska, and investigators don't believe he had any prior relationship with the victims, Mortvedt said. Mortvedt said he could not say whether Sherwin had a criminal record.

A search of online court records in Nebraska and Iowa did not produce any record of prior criminal behavior.

Autopsies on Sherwin and the victims were scheduled to be performed over the weekend, Mortvedt said, and more information would likely be released based on those findings. The park, which remained closed Friday, is about 50 miles (80 kilometers) east of Cedar Rapids. □



# Airstrikes kill more Ukrainians despite grain export deal

By SUSIE BLANN

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP)** — Emergency workers recovered three bodies from a school hit by a Russian strike in eastern Ukraine, officials said Friday, one of a string of attacks on the nation.

The casualties in the city of Kramatorsk followed a barrage Thursday on a densely populated area of Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv, that killed at least three people and wounded 23.

In the most significant agreement involving the warring parties so far, Russian and Ukrainian officials signed deals with the U.N. and Turkey to avert a global food crisis by clearing the way for the shipment of millions of tons of Ukrainian grain and some Russian exports of grain and fertilizer. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address the deals offer "a chance to prevent a global catastrophe — a famine that could lead to political chaos in many countries of the world, in particular in the countries that help us."

Yet the war that has blocked those grain shipments for almost five months did not abate. Russia this week reiterated its plans to seize territories beyond eastern Ukraine, where the Russian military has been trying to conquer the Donbas region, comprising the Donetsk and Luhansk provinces.



A woman looks at a trolleybus damaged by Russian shelling at Barabashovo market in Kharkiv, Ukraine, Thursday, July 21, 2022.

Associated Press

The Ukrainian president's office said that in one Donbas city, Kramatorsk, Russian shelling destroyed a school and damaged 85 residential buildings. Ukraine's state emergencies agency said rescuers found three bodies in the ruins of the school, which was hit Thursday.

"Russian strikes on schools and hospitals are very painful and reflect its true goal of reducing peaceful cities to ruins," Donetsk Gov. Pavlo Kyrylenko said in televised remarks, repeating his call for residents to evacuate.

Russia gave a different account of the attack. Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said Thursday's strike killed

more than 300 Ukrainian troops using Kramatorsk's School No. 23 as their base. He said another strike destroyed a munitions depot in the southern city of Mykolaiv.

Konashenkov also said Russian forces destroyed four U.S.-supplied High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems between July 5-20. The U.S. said it has supplied 12 of the multiple-rocket launchers to Ukraine. The claims could not be independently verified.

A senior U.S. defense official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity in line with department rules, said Thursday that Russia had not yet taken out a single HIMARS but

was likely to "get lucky" and do so at some point.

The U.S. announced Friday that as part of a new \$270 million security assistance package, it will deliver four more HIMARS to Ukraine. The package will allow Kyiv to acquire up to 580 Phoenix Ghost drones, about 36,000 rounds of artillery ammunition and more guided rockets known as GMLRS.

Ukrainian forces have used U.S.-made rocket launchers and tactical drones to hold at bay Russia's larger and more heavily equipped forces. The Ukrainian military has used HIMARS, which have a higher range and better precision compared with similar Soviet-

era systems in the Russian and Ukrainian inventory, to strike Russian munitions depots and other key targets. In the Dnipro region of central Ukraine, three schools were destroyed in the latest Russian strikes, Ukrainian authorities said. Seven Russian missiles hit the small town of Apostolove, wounding 18 residents.

The regional governor, Valentyn Reznichenko, decried the "senseless" attack. "There are no military goals behind it, and this shelling could only be explained by their desire to keep people on edge and sow panic and fear," Reznichenko said.

In other developments Friday:

— The British Defense Ministry said it believes that Russia is experiencing "critical shortages" of dedicated ground-attack missiles and therefore has increased its use of air-defense missiles "in secondary ground attack mode." The ministry said Russia has "almost certainly" deployed S-300 and S-400 strategic air defense systems designed to shoot down aircraft and missiles at long range, and that there is a "high chance" of them missing their intended targets and causing civilian casualties.

— The senior U.S. defense official said the fight for Donetsk is "likely to last through the summer," with Russia achieving slow gains at high cost. □

# Terror threat cancels Iranian opposition's summit in Albania

**TIRANA, Albania (AP)** — Iranian dissidents in Albania on Friday said they had canceled a summit following warnings from local authorities of a possible terrorist threat.

Some 3,000 Iranian dissidents from the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, best known as MEK, live at Ashraf 3 camp in Manez, 30 kilometers (19 miles) west of Albania's capital, Tirana.

They had planned to hold at their camp the Free Iran World Summit July 23-24 with the participation of U.S. senators and congressmen

and other former personalities from Western countries to "call on the Biden administration to adopt a decisive policy against the Tehran regime."

A statement from the camp said the summit was "postponed until further notice upon recommendations by the Albanian government, for security reasons, and due to terrorist threats and conspiracies."

Albanian authorities did not respond to questions on the threat.

The U.S. Embassy in Tirana warned its citizens that it

was "aware of a potential threat targeting the Free Iran World Summit" calling on its citizens "to avoid this event." Shahin Gobadi, the Iranians' spokesman based in Paris, also mentioned "the plot to bomb the grand gathering of Free Iran on June 30, 2018, in Paris by one of its active diplomats, Assadollah Assadi."

Last year Assadi was convicted to 20 years in prison in Belgium of masterminding a thwarted bomb attack against the MEK exiled Iranian opposition group in France. □



Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama pauses before speaking as he addresses a media conference at EU headquarters in Brussels, Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Associated Press



# S.Korea to lift ban on N.Korea T.V., newspapers despite tensions

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**

**Associated Press**

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)** —

South Korea plans to lift its decadeslong ban on public access to North Korean television, newspapers and other media as part of its efforts to promote mutual understanding between the rivals, officials said Friday, despite animosities over the North's recent missile tests.

Divided along the world's most heavily fortified border since 1948, the two Koreas prohibit their citizens from visiting each other's territory and exchanging phone calls, emails and letters, and they block access to each other's websites and TV stations. In a policy report to new President Yoon Suk Yeol on Friday, South Korea's Unification Ministry said it will gradually open the door for North Korean broadcasts, media and publications to try to boost mutual understanding, restore the Korean national identity and prepare for a future unification.

Ministry officials said South



**A man walks past TV monitors displaying a news program at an electronic shop in Seoul, South Korea, on Oct. 14, 2014, showing a North Korean newspaper with a photo of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un smiling, reportedly during his first public appearance in five weeks in Pyongyang, North Korea.**

**Associated Press**

Korea will start by allowing access to North Korean broadcasts to try to encourage North Korea to take similar steps. The ministry refused to provide further details, saying the plans are still being discussed with relevant authorities in South Korea.

Jeon Young-sun, a research professor at Seoul's Konkuk

University, said North Korea is unlikely to reciprocate because the flow of South Korean cultural and media content would pose "a really huge threat to" its authoritarian leadership.

Ruled by three generations of the Kim family since its 1948 foundation, North Korea strictly restricts its citizens' access to out-

side information, though many defectors have said they watched smuggled South Korean TV programs while living in the North. In 2014, North Korean troops opened fire when South Korean activists launched balloons carrying USB sticks containing information about the outside world and leaflets critical of the

Kim family toward North Korean territory.

Relations between the two Koreas remain strained over North Korea's torrid run of missile tests this year. Yoon, a conservative, has said he would take a tougher stance on North Korean provocations, though he said he has "an audacious plan" to improve the North's economy if it abandons its nuclear weapons.

Despite the North's likely reluctance to reciprocate, Jeon said South Korea needs to ease its ban on North Korean media because the restrictions have led to dependence on foreigners and other governments to gather North Korea-related information. Jeon said that has increased the danger of acquiring distorted information on North Korea.

It wasn't clear how anti-North Korea activists in the South would react to the government's move. Jeon said there was little chance the move would promote pro-North Korean sentiments. □

# Libya official: Renewed militia clashes in Tripoli kill 13



**Libyan army forces and vehicles are stationed in a street in the country's capital of Tripoli on Friday, July 22 2022.**

**Associated Press**

By **RAMI MUSA**

**BENGAZI, Libya (AP)** —

Clashes between competing militias in Libya's capital on Friday killed at least 13 people, despite calls for calm after violence first broke out the previous night, a spokesman for Tripoli's emergency services said.

It was the latest escalation to threaten the rela-

tive peace after nearly a decade of civil war in Libya, where two rival sets of authorities are locked in a political stalemate. The divisions have sparked several incidents of violence in Tripoli in recent months, but most have been over in a matter of hours.

According to Osama Ali, the emergency services spokesman, among those

killed since the fighting started late Thursday were three civilians from the area and a 12-year-old child. He also said 30 people had been wounded.

Earlier in the day, one of Libya's rival governments had called on militias to stop the fighting, which forced hundreds of people to flee the area.

The Libyan Presidential Council, based in Tripoli, said all forces involved in the clashes should go back to their bases immediately. Malek Mersat, another emergency spokesman, said 200 people had already fled the area, some of them who were attending a wedding. He called for the firing to stop so more could leave.

The clashes spread to other areas of the city. The Mitiga airport, Tripoli's only working airport, announced that it was closing out of concern for passenger safety. The U.N. mission to the country

also called on all parties involved to exercise restraint. Libya has for years been split between rival administrations in the east and the west, each supported by various well-armed militias and foreign governments. The Mediterranean nation has been in a state of upheaval since the 2011 NATO-backed uprising toppled and later killed long-time dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

The cause of the fighting was unclear. However, there were indications it was part of the ongoing power struggle between militias backing the country's rival administrations. Videos shared on social media showed local militia forces deploying and heavy fire being exchanged across the night sky.

The country's plan to transition to an elected government fell through after an interim administration based in Tripoli, headed

by Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, failed to hold elections last year. Dbeibah was meant to share executive power with The Presidential Council in Tripoli until an elected government could take over. The postponement drove aground yearslong U.N.-led attempts to usher in a more democratic future and bring the country's war to an end.

Dbeibah has refused to step down since then, raising questions over his mandate.

In response, the country's east-based lawmakers have elected a rival prime minister, Fathy Bashagha, a powerful former interior minister who is now operating a separate administration out of the city of Sirte. An attempt in May by Bashagha to install his government in Tripoli also ended in clashes that killed one, after which he withdrew. □



## Border between Aruba and Venezuela remains closed

Last Thursday, Spanish-language media in Aruba published an article in which it was assured that the border between Aruba and Venezuela was opened, and that from last Thursday, direct flights would begin from Aruba to Venezuela and vice versa.

This news was also published in other Venezuelan media, which created hype among the residents of Aruba who have Venezuelan nationality, who want to travel to the country, as well as those who are in Venezuela and want to come to Aruba.

Regarding this news, our reporter contacted prime minister Evelyn Wever-Croes – who currently is in the Netherlands – to find out if this information was true. Wever-Croes said that the news “is incorrect. [The border] is still closed, pending collaboration with Venezuelan authorities. We are, however, working on it.”

The news came up after a lawyer specialized in aeronautics, Rodolfo Ruiz A. from the firm Clyde & Co., asserted on Twitter that “Aruba eliminated the NoTAM that restricted flights from Venezuela to Aruba”. The NoTAM was dated from 10 June 2022 until 22 July 2022.

Notices to Air Misions (NoTAM), according to the International Organization of Civil Aviation, are notices containing aeronautic information which is indispensable for personnel who carries out flight operations. It includes all types of personnel relating to aviation, and is presented to aviation authorities in order to alert the flight crew regarding possible dangers in a flight route or a place which can compromise flight security.

However, a few minutes later, another NoTAM was published but dated from 21 July 2022 until 21 October 2022. From this, it can be understood that it was extended



with three months – as usually the border closing with Venezuela is updated in Aruba every three months.

The government of Aruba published a press release indicated that the information that was circulating in social media was incorrect. “We inform that the government of Aruba is still negotiating with Venezuelan authorities”, it said. Wever-Croes accentuated that the negotiations are going well, but it’s not easy to just open the border, as this requires diplomacy from both countries as well as concrete agreements regarding various control measures that need to be in place. The prime minister asked every citizen in our country; particularly Venezuelan citizens who have made this island their home, to remain calm and to not believe news not coming from the government of Aruba. “The government of Aruba continues all efforts to achieve the opening of the border in a respectful and controlled manner, but this requires

more cooperation with Venezuelan authorities”, Wever-Croes said.

Our reporter also found on Twitter a tweet from the “Netherlands Embassy in Venezuela”, which announced: “News is going around regarding the elimination of flight restrictions between Aruba and Venezuela. This is incorrect. Please do not contact your travel agent.”

It all began when the president of Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro, closed the border with Aruba for a period of 72 hours, on the 5th of Januari 2018. This measure was also directed to the islands of Curaçao and Bonaire. Back then, Maduro assured that this decision was in order to put ‘pressure for a healthy exchange’.

In 2019, prime minister Wever-Croes noted that Venezuelan vice-president declared that they were ready to open the border, but on the 10th of may she signed a decree to close the border between Aruba and Venezuela. This was

motivated on the political, economical and social situation that Venezuela was going through. At the time, Aruba registered an increase in the amount of Venezuelan migrants arriving, which had an impact on public order and security in Aruba, which is in the general interest.

From that moment, no boat or plane, commercial or cargo, could enter Aruba coming directly from Venezuela. This caused that fruit and vegetable with a more accessible price was not able to come to the island. Aruban residents can travel to Venezuela only through other countries, like Panama and the Dominican Republic, which carries the consequence of very high cost for the travellers.

Meanwhile, Venezuelan citizens both in Aruba and Venezuela continue waiting for the necessary cooperation for this from Venezuelan authorities, although it must be noted that Venezuelans require a visa in order to enter the island.

[Print](#) [Save](#) [Back](#)

### Selected NOTAMs

The following NOTAM list was selected by the user from a previous request. This list may not reflect all active NOTAMs for any of the below locations.

Data Current as of: Thu, 21 Jul 2022 19:25:00 GMT

#### TNCA ORANJESTAD/BEATRIX

A0331/22 - GEN AND COMMERCIAL AVIATION OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT, CARGO AND MAIL, TO AND FROM AD OF REPUBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE VENEZUELA ARE PROHIBITED. 21 JUL 18:18 2022 UNTIL 21 OCT 23:59 2022. CREATED: 21 JUL 18:21 2022

Number of NOTAMs selected: 1

End of Report



# With outstanding hospitality and just-right annual vacations Caribbean Palm Village Resort represents a great value with its unique vacation community



**NOORD, Aruba–** The mood is soft and enjoyable at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort (CPVR) as members and loyal guests return each year to share the special bond of a community formed over years of visits to their own special spot in Aruba. With a 35-year history of providing just-right annual vacations and facilitating flourishing lifelong friendships, CPVR is a beloved vacation ownership property where the daily meet-up poolside in spacious, palm-lined courtyards is a favorite part of the stay.

This private, full service resort offers a tranquil, secluded spot, where easy familiarity, high spirits, and laughter mark the strength and vibrancy of Caribbean Palm Village Resort's very special ambiance. Friendliness among fellow members and

guests as well as employees remains a regular staple of a CPVR stay, often aided by activities coordinator Mislady Fingal, who is always ready to share her high energy and infectious positive mood.

"We are a tight-knit, welcoming group here. You see this every day and especially on check-out days, when the ritual of departure includes warm good-byes and hugs before heading to the airport," remarks one owner who has happily owned at the CVPV for three decades. "There are many different types of resorts in Aruba, but we love to stay at CPVR because it is an unhurried atmosphere with all the service perks of a regular resort. We never have to fight to get a pool lounge, and there's always an opportunity to relax



among friends and enjoy the resort amenities as well as enjoy access to the many great restaurants and activities nearby."

This Noord-based timeshare resort offers a peaceful home base that is only a short drive from Aruba's bustling high-rise Palm Beach area, and continues to deliver happiness daily and countless treasured memories over the long term. Its unique, intimate resort environment continues to feature the largest suites in Aruba as well as two large pools in wide courtyard settings. It provides a private, attractive place to enjoy Aruba's cooling winds and ever-present sun for a truly idyllic vacation experience.

The suites offerings, available in Studio, One-Bedroom and Two-Bedroom are spacious and allow owners and guests a comfortable environment with the convenience of fully equipped kitchens. The property also features several BBQ areas and an on-property restaurant as well as bar areas both by the restaurant and right by the pool for swim-up service. The attractions are not limited to the property with concierge services offered through its Activities Department. All-in-all, it provides an excellent option for an Aruba stay at a great value.

Everyday reunions, activities and interactions among members, guests and employees remain a constant at this well-established happy place on one happy island. Caribbean Palm Village Resort is located off Palm Beach Road at Noord 43-E, and remains a welcoming community for longtime visitors as well as first time guests alike. Feel free to check it out with a visit and a chat with the on-property Sales Associate Laura Croes, or give her a call in Aruba at Tel: 526-2883 or from the US: 786-672-0384. □





BINGO IS BACK EVERY THURSDAY, SATURDAY &amp; SUNDAY!

Free Shirt  
Sunday!Get a **FREE** Alhambra  
T-Shirt when you earn  
**250 Slot Points** on Sunday with  
your **Players' Club card!****THE SHOPS  
AT ALHAMBRA CASINO**Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets,  
Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.Dunkin Donuts | Baskin Robbins | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar  
Hungry Piranha | Twist of Flavors | Juan Valdez CaféThe Brownstone Ribs & Seafood  
Coming Soon: Auntie Anne's PretzelsAlhambra  
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.

## Aruba's Prime Minister met with outgoing and new Dutch Marine Base Savaneta Commanders

Oranjestad - On Monday, July 18, 2022, the Prime Minister of Aruba, Evelyn Wever-Croes, met with the outgoing Dutch Marine Base Savaneta (MSKSAV) Commander and the new Commander.

Commander van Beekhuizen did lead the MSKSAV for the past three years. He is now moving back to the Netherlands, and his replacement is Marine Base Commander van Wijk.

The Prime Minister emphasized the excellent relationship between the Government of Aruba and the MSKSAV. The Government can always count on the

support of the MSKSAV when needed.

It is noteworthy to state that during the leadership of Commander van Beekhuizen, MSKSAV implemented the Social Formation Trajectory for female participants. The prime minister remarked that she is very proud of this achievement. It took considerable time to assess but ultimately resulted in a successful project based on the results.

The Government hopes that the second female trajectory can soon start. They need to start promoting this trajectory to recruit more female participants for the



social formation trajectory.

The prime minister wishes

Commander van Wijk success with his new duties and is sure the cooperation

will be excellent. The official transfer of power will take place in August. □

## The Government of Aruba honors Ms. Thessaly Zimmerman as Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba



Oranjestad - Recently, the Prime Minister of Aruba, Mrs. Evelyn Wever-Croes, and fellow Ministers recognized Miss Aruba 2021 and top 10 Finalist of Miss Universe, Ms. Thessaly Zimmerman, as a Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba.

Ms. Zimmerman represented Aruba on the famous international beauty stage and finished in the top 10 finalists. Ms. Zimmerman proved that despite coming from a small island with determination, discipline, faith, and a humble attitude, anyone succeeds in life. It encourages others to work hard to reach set goals. It is essential to stand still on the efforts of Ms. Zimmerman to get her message

about mental health out to the world. It is a strong and significant message, especially after the pandemic that affected the world.

After 25 years, a participant of Aruba became a top 10 finalist. Thanks to Ms. Zimmerman, millions around the globe learned more about Aruba. It is a priceless promotion for Aruba. Ms. Zimmerman carried the big responsibility with pride and showed her humble character in representing Aruba.

The Government is very proud of her accomplishment and deemed it proper to recognize her as Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba. □







**At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.**

## Where to Find the Anchor?

**The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.**

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

### About the Anchor

#### Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde,

at a foundry located in Germany.

### Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

#### Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

#### Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the in-

ner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

### How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinius – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

### Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charlies Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charlaes Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

### The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (I will recommend other places below). With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule. □



## Jeanique de Palm: “Believe in yourself and never stop dreaming”

**Miss Jeanique de Palm is a young woman with a successful career in beauty and entertainment. Currently she has her own dance group, she organizes workshops and seminars for the youth of Aruba. She also represented Aruba in the Reina Hispanoamericana pageant in 2021.**

When she was only three years old, Jeanique took part in her first beauty pageant, Little Miss World Aruba. This was the pageant that opened the doors for Jeanique into the world of entertainment. Jeanique danced in many dance groups for many years. After a while, in 2009 she decided to take part in the Miss Teen Aruba International pageant, where she was second runner-up. She also won Miss Teen Flamingo and Miss Teen Model International. This paved the way for her first international pageant.

“In 2010, I had the opportunity to represent Aruba abroad in the Teen Princess of the World pageant, which took place in the Dominican Republic. This was my first international pageant and from among 15 participants, I was crowned Teen Princess Interna-

tional, and I also won Best Costume”, Jeanique told our reporter. “In 2013, I participated in the contest for Reina Grandi for Carnival of Aruba, representing the group Champagne, and I was first runner-up as well.

Two years ago, Jeanique started her own dance group, Dazzling Dancers, teaching young children between the ages of 4 and 6, and 7 to 12 years, how to develop their talents in the world of dance. And last year, during the pandemic, Jeanique started with Beauty Within Me. “I wanted to do something different. And thinking about what I could do, seeing as you always get different camps for kids but almost nothing that is focused on teenagers”, she explains. “I sat thinking, what can I do with the teens, that they will find appealing? And so I came with the theme of Beauty Within Me.”

“The goal of Beauty Within Me is to create young people who are sure of themselves, and young people who stand up for themselves without fear of facing the world. The most important part is not only the project, but also what you want to



bring with the project. So what you want is that after the seminar the kids can feel confident, that they can feel like they learned something that can help them in their personal development”, she added.

Jeanique says that in 2020 the seminar went really well, being her first time, and she had 30 people participating, all between ages of 14 to 19 years. The participant received talks about various topics presented by young professionals from the community of Aruba.

She explains that 2021 was also successful, where she brought forward different themes like personal branding, self-esteem boosting and mental health – a very important subject for the community currently. “I invited a psychologist and kids who are going through [mental health challenges] also came to tell their story.”

“That is a topic that currently is very popular, and there are a lot of children who don't have the correct information for it, so I think it's the

right moment for them to talk to a psychologist, ask questions. The psychologist also could explain to them what they need to be aware of and what is the process that they're going through right now – because when you are young, you go through different changes and a lot of times you're not aware of it yourself”, she explains.

For Jeanique, the greatest satisfaction is when she received comments from the parents of the kids who participate in her seminars, saying how for some of them, one way or another, the seminar has impacted positively in the life of the kids.

“That the parents see the change in their children, for me that is the greatest satisfaction. Because at the end of the day, the parent is the one who lives with the child and the one who knows the child. In my case, it's one week I spend with them. But if the parent sees a change one or two days after partaking in various seminars, for me that is more than satisfactory”, Jeanique said.



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 40 Reunion

1 Rooted attendee

6 Barn-raising sect

41 Golf's Sam

11 Digression areas

12 Game

with a

drawing

13 Fork

features

14 Hawke of

Hollywood

15 Fashion

17 Tick off

18 Historic

time

19 Stinging

insects

22 Silent

assent

23 Some

sweaters

24 Dianne

of "The

Birdcage"

25 Grove fruit

27 Knight's

address

30 San Diego

player

31 French

article

32 Objective

33 Arises

35 Brain

parts

38 Debate

topic

39 Island

south of

Sicily

B	A	N	A	L	B	A	B	E	S
A	B	O	V	E	A	L	E	R	T
G	E	T	O	N	R	A	T	I	O
	H	I	D	E	S	T	E	P	
S	L	I	D		W	A	K	E	
N	U	N		D	E	P	A	R	T
A	R	G	U	E	S	N	O	R	E
P	E	T	N	A	M	E		F	I
	O	K	R	A		U	F	O	S
H	A	L	E		P	O	N	D	
A	R	O	M	A		O	C	E	A
L	I	S	P	S		P	L	A	T
O	D	E	T	S		S	E	D	A

Yesterday's answer

**DOWN**

1 Robin's

partner

2 Crumbly

Italian

3 Did

wrong

4 Unspoiled

spot

5 Worthy

and dry

6 Pub

order

7 Word,

in Paris

8 Opinion

opener

9 Sets off

10 Gaggles

output

16 Misplays

at cards

20 Leaving

high

21 Play

division

24 Combat

36 LAX

25 Buckeye

26 Wander

aimlessly

27 Western

sight

28 Bring

about

29 Views

anew

30 Soothes

34 China

setting

37 Down

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13						14			
15					16			17	
18				19	20	21			
22				23					
			24						
	25	26					27	28	29
30							31		
32					33	34			
35			36	37		38			
39						40			
41						42			

7-23

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-23

**CRYPTOQUOTE**

G K W Q B Z V V N W L Z E C W L Q

Q C N J Z Q S L E J L M Z Q E F L Q Q

D Q X L Z W Z X V L K F V U

E J W K C R J V K M L — N Z W V

Q Z R Z F

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE STARS DON'T LOOK BIGGER, BUT THEY DO LOOK BRIGHTER. — SALLY RIDE

## Twitter, in Musk fight, posts surprising drop in revenue



The Twitter splash page is seen on a digital device, Monday, April 25, 2022, in San Diego.

Associated Press

By KELVIN CHAN and MATT O'BRIEN  
AP Business Writers

**LONDON (AP)** — Twitter reported a quarterly loss Friday and declining revenue caught Wall Street off guard with the number of people using the platform on the rise.

The latest quarterly earnings figures offered a glimpse into how the social media platform has performed during a months-long negotiation with billionaire and Tesla CEO Elon Musk after he said that he would buy the company, and then changed his mind.

It was worse than industry analysts had anticipated. The company lost \$270 million in the April-June period, or 8 cents per share. Wall Street was expecting a per-share profit of 14 cents, according to a poll by FactSet.

Inflation has crimped advertising spending and that was a huge drag on Twitter's quarterly revenue, which slid 1% to \$1.18 billion. The company also cited "uncertainty" over the acquisition by Musk.

Twitter is holding no calls with analysts and will not publish a letter to shareholders, as is the norm, because of the pending acquisition.

The underlying numbers at Twitter, however, were good. The number of daily active users rose 16.6% to 237.8 million compared with the same period a year before.

Those numbers are particularly impressive in the wake of a quarterly earnings report late Thursday from the social media company Snap.

Snap also saw advertising tumble in the high-inflationary environment and shares plunged more than 30% Friday before the opening bell.

"When compared to the nightmare quarter of SNAP last night, it shows digital ad spending is not falling off a cliff like feared which is a positive for others in the space such as Facebook, Pinterest, and Google," wrote Dan Ives, who covers technology for Wedbush. Shares of Twitter Inc. rose 1% at the opening bell Friday as the clash with Musk

overshadowed almost everything. Twitter is attempting to force Musk to make good on his April promise to buy the company for \$44 billion. Twitter last week sued Musk to complete the deal and both sides are bracing for an October courtroom trial to resolve the dispute.

The April-June fiscal quarter encompassed a tumultuous three months for Twitter, starting with the April 4 disclosure that Musk had acquired a huge stake in the company, paving the way for his takeover bid later that month. It didn't take long for the relationship to fray as Musk publicly tweeted his concerns about Twitter and its employees and signaled he was having second thoughts.

Twitter argued in court that Musk's actions and his "repeated disparagement of Twitter and its personnel" created uncertainty that harmed Twitter's business operations, employees and stock price.

It called for an expedited trial so the company could carry on with important business decisions, while Musk sought to wait until next year because of the complexity of the case and his demands for more of Twitter's internal data about how it counts fake and automated "spam bot" accounts — which he's cited as a chief reason for trying to terminate the deal.

A judge this week set the trial for October, siding with Twitter's concerns that too much delay could cause the company irreparable harm. It will be held in Delaware's Court of Chancery, which handles many high-profile business disputes, unless Musk and Twitter settle the case before then. □

**Honey Dolls**  
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

**Beautiful Latin Girls**  
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

Like us on Facebook

facebook.com/arubatoday/



## Facebook gives users new way to see all their friends' posts



In this May 16, 2012, file photo, the Facebook logo is displayed on an iPad in Philadelphia.  
Associated Press

**MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP)** — Facebook is rolling out an update that enables its 2 billion daily users to more easily view their friends' posts in chronological order.

The new feature is the company's latest attempt to keep people coming back to its social network amid intensifying competition with its trendier rival TikTok. The changes announced Thursday will offer up two different perspectives. When Facebook users open the app, they will initially see the usual news feed featuring posts selected by an algorithm that the company says is designed to highlight topics and friends most likely to appeal to each individual's tastes and interests. The main feed on the newly dubbed "Home" section will also include an option to look at short videos called Reels — Facebook's clone of TikTok.

But many users have expressed frustration with the feeds forced upon them by Facebook, while critics of the Menlo Park, California, company have blasted

the algorithm for spreading misinformation and creating polarizing echo chambers.

Facebook, owned by Meta Platforms, is trying to address those concerns with a new Feed tab located to the left of the notifications tab on the shortcut bar in both the iPhone and Android versions of its mobile app.

After clicking on the Feed tab, users will be able to

toggle over to a chronological presentation of their Facebook favorites, Facebook groups they have joined or feeds consisting exclusively of posts from all their Facebook friends in the order they were shared. The new option is designed to address complaints from users who believe they have been missing interesting posts because Facebook's algorithm omitted them from their feeds.

"One of the most requested features for Facebook is to make sure people don't miss friends' posts," Facebook founder and Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg said in the announcement.

Facebook is giving users more control at a time when it has been struggling to grow, partly because other social media such as TikTok have become more popular, particularly among young generations. That stagnation, in turn, is making it more difficult for corporate parent Meta to boost its profits from the digital ads that appear in users' feeds. □

### SALE/RENT

#### PARADISE BEACH VILLAS

**SALE** Wk 32. 2 Bedr., 2 Bathr., 2 Balc., 2 pools. Sunset & Great Views!

**RENT** Wk 31. 2 Bedr., 2 Bathr., Balc., Pools, Sunset, 3 Restaurants. All compl. refurbished  
CALL USA 941-343-1088

215587



### Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

### Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

### Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks

### Sales

Sulaika Croes

### Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

### Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

### Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

### Columnists

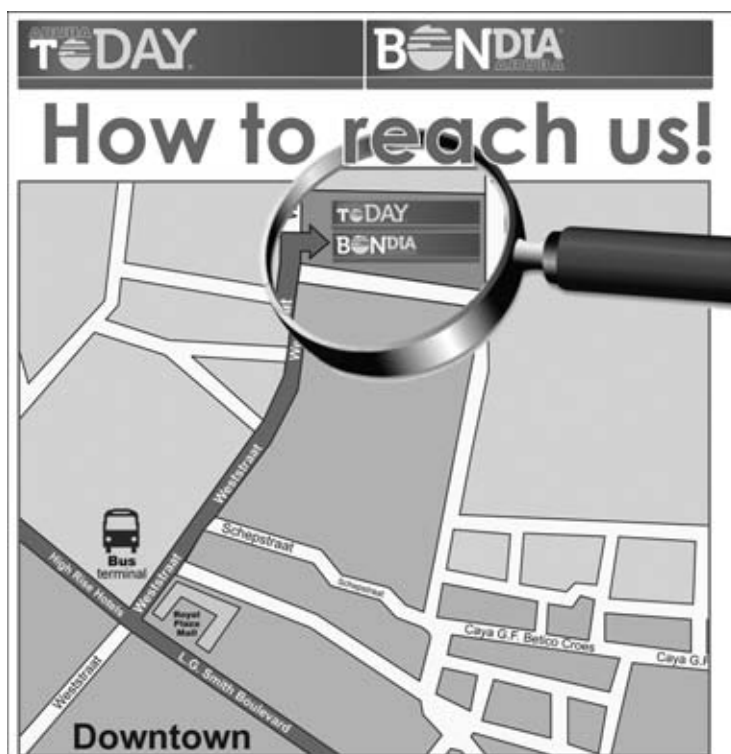
Anthony Croes

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

@arubatoday



### HEALTH

#### DOCTOR ON DUTY

##### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

##### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel. 524 8833

#### PHARMACY ON DUTY

##### Oranjestad:

Oduber Tel. 582 1780

##### San Nicolas:

San Nicolas Tel. 584 5712

#### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
+297 588 0539

#### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

#### TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

#### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

#### AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

#### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



facebook.com/arubatoday/



# MLB struggling to get attendance back to pre-pandemic levels

By STEVE MEGARGEE

AP Sports Writer

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Blame it on lingering effects of the pandemic, resentment over the lockout or economic fears.

Major League Baseball is struggling to fill the stands at pre-COVID levels as the sport heads into the last 2 1/2 months of its first season since 2019 without capacity restrictions.

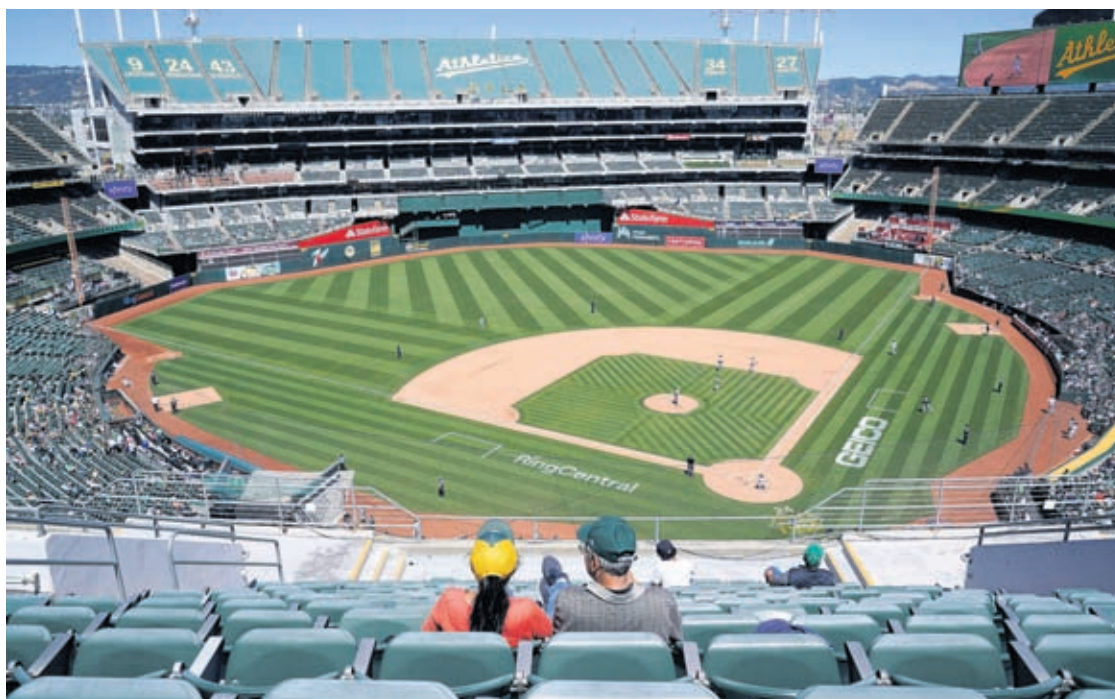
MLB reached the All-Star break with an average attendance of 26,409. That represents a drop of 5.4% from the All-Star break of 2019 — which was 10 days earlier than this year.

League officials remain encouraged and point to the recovery.

"We have come back to between 94-95% of where we were prior to the pandemic," MLB chief revenue officer Noah Garden said. "So we feel really good about the progress we have made on the attendance side rebounding strongly from a situation that threatened the very core of how we operate as an industry."

Attendance is up over 70% from the season-ending average in 2021, when only Texas started at full capacity and all 30 teams weren't at 100% until July 2. MLB played its abbreviated 2020 regular season without spectators.

While MLB's average attendance had fallen each year since 2015, most of the drops were by less than 2%. Average attendance was over 30,000 for 14 straight seasons from 2004-17 but hasn't reached that mark



Fans attend the first baseball game of a doubleheader between the Oakland Athletics and the Detroit Tigers in Oakland, Calif., Thursday, July 21, 2022.

Associated Press

since.

"Attendance has been dropping about 1% a year — year after year — for about the last 15 years," said Victor Matheson, a Holy Cross economics professor who specializes in sports economics. "Major League Baseball attendance peaked in 2007 and has been falling pretty consistently year after year for over a decade. What we'd just normally expect after about three years is about 3% lower attendance."

Bob Hening, a 48-year-old fan from Cranford, New Jersey, said he used to attend about a dozen New York Yankees games per year. He's attended just three this season, has tickets for two more games and doesn't plan to attend any others. Hening said he stopped going as often because he bought a house last year

and is staying at home more often, but he also believes the high price of attending games may be keeping fans away. That could prove particularly true this year as inflation causes more people to spend more carefully.

"I think people are maybe more concerned," Hening said. "There's not as much expendable income." Matheson said MLB relies more than other professional sports leagues on out-of-town fans. That makes MLB particularly vulnerable to issues that could curtail tourism.

"If travel's disrupted, either by expensive gas prices or expensive airline tickets or just general travel disruptions, that could make a big dent," Matheson said.

Charles Lindsey, an associate professor of marketing at the University at Buffalo

School of Management, noted that single-game ticket sales remain solid but season ticket sales have gone down. He said the NBA faced a similar problem this season.

Lindsey cited inflation as a leading cause and said the pandemic may have contributed to a lesser extent.

"But those are factors that are common across all sorts of recreational experiences," Lindsey said. "And a lot of recreational entertainment — dining out, travel — a lot of those areas are back to pre-pandemic levels."

Lindsey believes dissatisfaction because of the lockout may have caused some fans not to renew their season tickets. He also speculated some franchises might have reduced their staffs during the pandemic and paid for it with

reduced ticket sales.

Teams have been particularly hard hit in group sales. Rick Schlesinger, the Brewers' president of business operations, said last month at a Milwaukee Press Club gathering that the team's group-ticket sales normally total about 600,000 annually. Schlesinger estimated that total would be about 400,000 this season.

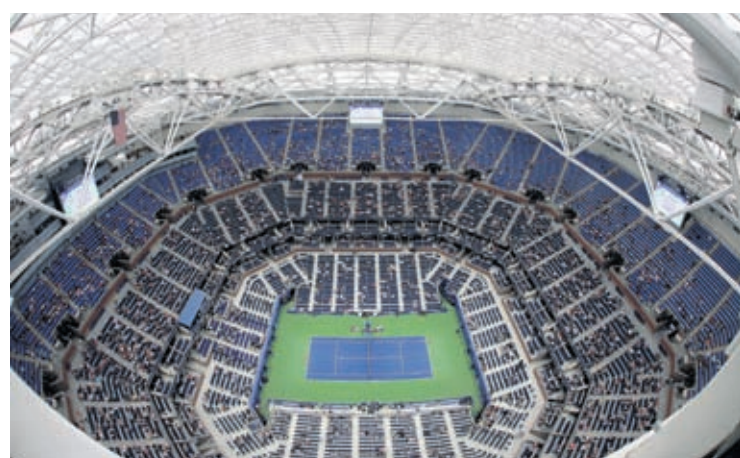
He noted some businesses are still working remotely and therefore are having fewer group outings, and that not as many schools as usual have made ballpark trips.

"The group business has not returned to anywhere near normal levels, frankly not surprisingly," Schlesinger said.

Oakland's attendance has plunged nearly 55% from its 2019 All-Star break level. The Athletics dramatically cut payroll amid concerns about the franchise's future in the Bay Area as they seek a new stadium.

Other teams whose attendance has dropped at least 15% from where they were at the 2019 break include Arizona (26.7%), Pittsburgh (20.8%), Washington (19.7%), Philadelphia (17.9%), Cincinnati (17.8%), Cleveland (16.3%), LA Angels (15.1%) and Kansas City (15.1%).

The only teams with attendance increases from their 2019 break averages are Toronto (48.5%), San Diego (29.4%), Miami (23.3%), Atlanta (19.1%), Seattle (12.7%), the Chicago White Sox (9.5%), Detroit (6.9%) and the New York Mets (4.8%).



This is a view of Arthur Ashe Stadium during the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Sept. 1, 2016.

Associated Press

## ATP men's tennis tour hoping to increase LGBTQ inclusion

**LONDON (AP)** — The ATP is teaming up with You Can Play, a group working to increase LGBTQ inclusion in sports, after 75% of players who participated in a survey by the men's tennis tour said they had heard other players use homophobic slurs.

The tour announced Friday that it is launching a multi-

year education partnership with You Can Play, which has worked with the NHL, MLS and NASCAR.

The ATP's anonymous, online survey was distributed to hundreds of players last year; 65 responded. Some also agreed to be interviewed.

The ATP said its findings "indicated a strong fear

of rejection, isolation from others on tour, and loneliness as being likely barriers to LGBTQ+ players publicly disclosing their sexuality to others." There are no openly gay athletes in men's tennis currently.

The tour said a majority of participants "were supportive of ATP taking action to combat homophobia."



# Laporte wins Tour Stage 19 and ends drought for France

**CAHORS, France (AP)** — Christophe Laporte ended the host's drought of stage winners when he surged out of the peloton in the finale of the 19th stage and claimed his maiden win on the Tour de France on Friday.

Just two days before the race ends in Paris, Laporte spared the blushes for French riders who had not tasted a victory all month. Only twice in race history has France not produced a stage winner, in 1926 and 1999.

Laporte made his move after a trio of breakaway riders was caught with 1.5 kilometers left in the 188.5-kilometer flat stage to Cahors in southwestern France. On paper, the stage looked enticing for pure sprinters but Laporte made the most of the slight uphill section to the finish to deny them.

A support rider for race leader Jonas Vingegaard at Jumbo-Visma, Laporte won ahead of Jasper Philipsen and Alberto Dainese. It was the fifth stage win this month for the mighty Dutch team that also includes Wout van Aert. The versatile rider from Belgium did not compete for the stage win on Friday, offering the chance to Laporte.

"I'm super happy, I can't believe it. Wout told me, 'Today is for you,'" Laporte



France's Christophe Laporte celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 188.5 kilometers (117.3 miles) with start in Castelnau-Magnoac and finish in Cahors, France, Friday, July 22, 2022.

Associated Press

said. "I was already fully satisfied by our great team

work, but to win a Tour stage is a childhood dream

come true." There was no significant

change in the general classification. Vingegaard had an overall lead of 3 minutes, 26 seconds over defending champion Tadej Pogacar, and 2018 champion Geraint Thomas was still in third place, 8 minutes off the pace.

Organizers initially said Pogacar managed to take five seconds off Vingegaard as he sprinted to fifth place in Cahors but they ultimately credited the pair with the same time.

Pogacar tried to escape from the peloton in the last hour but Van Aert reacted quickly and did not let him go before Alexis Gougeard, Fred Wright and Jasper Stuyven moved away with 32 kilometers left.

Van Aert pulled the peloton to set up Laporte, while Michael Matthews, from the BikeExchange-Jayco team, also took part in the chase to pave the way for sprinter Dylan Groenewegen to deliver.

Once he caught the breakaway, Laporte accelerated again and never looked back.

There is just one big test left before the race reaches Paris — a 41-kilometer time trial on Saturday — and Vingegaard seems all but guaranteed to win a maiden Tour title after he built his comfortable cushion at the top of the standings in the Alps and Pyrenees. □

# Mets ace deGrom to make at least 1 more rehab start

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Mets ace Jacob deGrom will make at least one more minor league rehab start before rejoining New York's rotation.

The two-time Cy Young Award winner, sidelined all season by a stress reaction in his right scapula, threw 60 pitches over five innings in a simulated game Thursday at the team's complex in Florida.

Mets manager Buck Showalter said deGrom felt good Friday and his next step will be a throwing session Sunday as part of a work day at Citi Field in New York. After that, if all goes well, he'll pitch for a minor league af-

filiate a few days later and then get slotted into the big league rotation.

That means deGrom definitely won't return in time to face the crosstown New York Yankees at Citi Field next Tuesday or Wednesday. The earliest possibilities for his season debut would be July 31 at Miami or a three-game series in Washington from Aug. 1-3. The right-hander has already made three minor league rehab starts totaling 8 2/3 innings. He's allowed an unearned run and five hits with 15 strikeouts and one walk. He went four innings during the most recent one last week for Triple-A Syra-

cuse.

It's still unclear which affiliate deGrom will pitch for next.

The 34-year-old deGrom was initially supposed to throw live batting practice Tuesday, but the outing was pushed back two days after he experienced muscle soreness in his pitching shoulder.

DeGrom hasn't pitched in the majors since July 7, 2021. He missed the second half of last season with right forearm tightness and a sprained elbow.

Even without him, the Mets had a 2 1/2-game lead in the NL East over defending World Series champion



New York Mets' Jacob deGrom delivers a pitch during the first inning of the first baseball game of a doubleheader against the Milwaukee Brewers Wednesday, July 7, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

Atlanta as they got set to open the second half Fri-

day night at home against the San Diego Padres. □



# Weekly SPECIALS



Ola Magnum Assorted 6x90ml

**\$3.42**

Each



Striploin Seasoned Brasil

**\$13.71**

Per KG



Cherries Red

**\$7.42**

Per KG



Grapes Red/White 3lbs

**\$5.71**

Per Bag



Chicken Drumsticks

**\$5.14**

Per KG



Chorizo Sausage (Pork)

**\$7.42**

Per KG



Onions Greens Scallion

**\$0.74**

Each



Lettuce Iceberg Wrapped

**\$1.88**

Each



Badio Chimichurri  
Steak Sauce 16oz

**\$3.69**

Each

## DIARY/FROZEN



Toufayan Low Carb Wrap 10in 10oz

**\$3.14**

Each



Doux Kip Nuggets (Halal) 1kg

**\$5.99**

Each

## HBC/GM



Dove Soap Bar Regular White 2 Pack 100gr

**\$2.57**

Each



EE Casual Napkins 12.5x11.6in 250ct

**\$2.71**

Each

## DELI/BAKERY



American Yellow Cheese

**\$1.14**

100GR



Kaasbroodje

**\$0.85**

Each

**SUPER**  
**Do it Center**

VALID FROM  
**22 JULY - 28 JULY 2022**  
and while supplies last

SUPER Do it Center Aruba | Shaba 3, Noord Aruba | 5831111 | customerservice@doit.aw